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such useful organisations as the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in every civilised country, so also it was necessary that a set of rules should be framed by which cruelty to human beings, even if they should court it, might be avoided. If therefore, by any such rules, meat could be made not very easy to get, it would not only more effectively prevent the animals from being killed, but would also save the people from unknowingly contracting the long array of diseases which meat-eating was subject to. Under such circumstances it would be logical to ask for meat-eating being stopped throughout the State. Yet, he would be satisfied for the present if the killing of such of the animals as were absolutely necessary for purposes of agriculture be prohibited, so that the breed of cattle might improve and the agriculturists might have the satisfaction that their cattle would always be available to them. Even in the Penal Code, here and in British India, a differential treatment was accorded to such animals as the buffalo, ox, cow and the like, and the killing or maiming them was punishable irrespective of their value, unlike other animals. It was a similar distinction that he asked for in dealing with the present subject. He thought that the measure proposed by him was necessary both on grounds of practical morality and practical utility (including agricultural needs of the State) and also in the interests of public health. In Northern India, cow-killing was made penal in most of the Hindu States. In the neighbouring State of Cochin also, that was all along the rule. He therefore requested that some steps might be taken in the direction suggested by him.

Deean's reply.—Noted.

143. The need for the free entertainment of qualified Ealavas in all the various departments of the State service.

Mr. N. Kumaran Asan (Member, Nominated) said that the grievances of the Ealavas in the matter of their free entertainment in the State service had been represented by the Ealava Members in successive sessions of the Assembly; but no satisfactory reply had been given by the Government. It was gratifying that the traditional State policy was being relaxed since 1083 M. E. in the matter of entertaining the Ealavas in the public service. It had also been declared in recent years that the Government had no objection to give them appointments. But one thing had to be remembered, and that was that, in their present condition, there were not many among them qualified to hold high offices, on account of their less prosperous circumstances and the want of adequate facilities in the past to receive education. It was the prayer of the Ealava Members at the last session that they should be accorded special concessions, as were held out to the Mahomedans in British India. He regretted that the same prayer had to be repeated in the present session also. The strict rules as to qualifications for appointments should be relaxed to some extent in the case of Ealavas, and among applicants of equal qualifications, the Ealavas should be preferred. He said that, according to the last Census, a sixth of the whole population of the State, 18 per cent of the literates and 6 per cent of the English educated people, were Ealavas, and, if any of these circumstances had received consideration in the matter of giving appointments,

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the percentage of the Ealavas in the State service would not have fallen so low as 8. It was an injustice to the community as a whole and ought to deserve the serious attention of the Government immediately. According to the Census of 1901, there was no Ealava in the public service; but now 120 appointments were being held by them. The beneficial change was undoubtedly due to the considerate policy of the Government since 1083 M. E. and the Ealavas were grateful to the Government for the same.

From the above it would be evident that caste prejudices were wearing away, and acted no more as a complete bar to their being appointed in the various departments of the State service. That a few Ealavas were given appointments suited to their qualifications could not in any way be regarded as a concession. The Government had now prescribed minimum qualifications for entertainment in the lower ranks of the service and they had begun to be rigidly enforced unfortunately at a time when the Ealavas were aspiring for appointments in the service. Other communities had risen to the occasion; but owing to want of facilities for the education of the Ealavas, they were not up to the mark and therefore the rule worked special difficulties against them. Education had become more costly and they were now being admitted into the schools. Other communities had more than gained their ground before the unfavourable conditions came into existence. Under equal conditions, therefore, it was certain that the community would never be able to come up to the other communities, who were marching a good distance ahead. The appointments available were limited but the number of qualified men was ever increasing. It was not therefore possible to meet the demands of the few qualified among the Ealavas unless special concessions were shown to them. He prayed that, for a specified period of years at least, the Government should be pleased to show special concessions to the Ealavas in the matter of their appointments.

The Member then read out the statistics he had collected of the total number of appointments in the different departments and the number held by the several communities, and contended that the appointment of the Ealavas in the various departments of the State was unjustifiably low. Some of the departments, such as the Excise and the Police, could afford to entertain Ealavas more largely. The very low proportion of one per cent of Ealavas in the Police Department deserved the early attention of the Government. The Member said that the Tiyyas were being freely entertained in the Police force in Malabar and other places in British India. In the Excise Department, the Ealavas had a special claim, the preparation of toddy and distillation of arrack being one of the important professions of the major portion of the community and the question of appointing them as Excise Inspectors required consideration. He also mentioned that, in the Anchal, Education and Forest Departments, there was greater scope for the Ealavas being admitted. The Ealavas could also be appointed more freely as grant-in-aid Vydians. In conclusion, he suggested that, for some

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time to come, a certain fraction of the vacancies in the several departments might be reserved to qualified Ealavas and a special register caused to be maintained in each department of the Ealava applicants for appointments and those actually appointed. The results should be periodically examined and published. Unless some such arrangement was made, it was unlikely that the community would receive the full benefit out of the favourable change of policy that was now being pursued.

Mr. V. R. Padmanabhan (Member, Nominated) said that the percentage of Ealavas in the State service bore no proportion to the percentage of their population. He realised the fact that the efficiency of the public service ought to be the first aim in appointments and he did not therefore claim any special favourable treatment for non-qualified men. What he submitted was that, among applicants of equal qualifications, the Ealava applicant should now be preferred, considering the fact that the Ealavas were given facilities in the matter of education and were declared eligible for appointments in the public service only recently. He then took department after department to show the paucity of the Ealavas in them. He regretted to observe that not a single Ealava was appointed as a clerk in the Huzur, even though converts from lower castes were freely entertained. In the Revenue Department there were only 3 or 4 Ealavas. The Devaswom duties of the Revenue officials was offered as an excuse. He hoped that the Ealavas might be freely appointed as Proverticars, Accountants, Samprathis etc. There was only one Ealava process server in the whole State, though the staff was numerous and there could be no scarcity for qualified Ealava applicants. In the Anchal Department also they were not adequately represented. With regard to the Police Department, he said that recently the attitude of the authorities concerned seemed to be sympathetic; still some qualified applicants were not given appointments. The Excise Department was perhaps the first department to be thrown open to the Ealavas and yet that was one in which the Ealavas were still inadequately represented. He therefore requested that peremptory orders be issued to the departmental heads to give preference to the qualified Ealava applicants.

He then dwelt at length on the desirability of having an Ealava Member in the Legislative Council to guard their interests. Even though educationally qualified Members could not be found easily, a person who knew the disabilities of the Ealavas and their interests well could be had. He requested that one such person might be nominated as a Member in the Legislative Council.

Mr. V. Kesavan Vydian (Member, Nominated) said that the subject was not a new one, but a long-standing complaint. Twenty-five years ago the Nairs and Ealavas had submitted a joint memorial to the Government on the subject. Since the creation of the Assembly, the question had also been repeatedly pressed on the attention of the Government. The only relief obtained had been the grant of a few appointments to the Ealavas. It did not afford adequate relief at all. Even now, applications from the Ealavas

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were passed over by the heads of departments such as the Police, in preference to sometimes less qualified men of the other communities. He requested that the Government should issue stringent instructions and see that the Ealavas were more freely entertained in the service.

Mr. K. C. Kunju Raman (Member, Nominated) stated that he had not much more to add to what the other Members had said on the subject. He said that the Police Department could more largely employ the Ealavas.

Dewan.—In the Police Department, if too many Ealavas are taken, the work may be obstructed, as they could not enter all places freely, such as temples, Brahmin houses and the like. They were therefore being employed in the Reserve.

Member.—17 Ealavas in a Department consisting of 1766 appointments was a very low percentage.

Mr. Kumaran Asan then said that the danger was being over-estimated. In British Malabar, where pollution was more rigidly observed, Tiyyas were largely employed in the Police Department.

Dewan.—Pollution is much less rigid in Malabar than here. Anyhow, the difficulty in more largely admitting the Ealavas into the Police has been due to the circumstance I have mentioned.

Mr. K. M. Krishnan (Member, Nominated) supported the views of the previous speakers and said that it was within his knowledge that applications made by qualified Ealavas for vacant places in the Trivandrum College, the Public Works Department and the Huzur Office were not considered. He requested that it should be enforced that the claims of duly qualified men were not brushed aside in the way now being done; but preferential consideration should be shown to the Ealavas of equal qualifications, owing to their being backward in point of education.

Dewan's reply.—The whole question will be looked into and all that is possible will be done.

144. The need for the free entertainment of Mahomedans in the State service.

Mr. Shaik Mahomed Hamidani Thangal (Member, Nominated) said that the subject was one which had been represented at the previous sessions by various Mahomedan Members. He prayed that the Mahomedans, who were able to read and write and understand matters, should be appointed in the subordinate ranks in the important departments of the State such as the Judicial, Excise, Forest, Police, Public Works and Registration Departments, without insisting on the minimum qualifications prescribed for the general service, and hoped that it would act as an incentive to the better education of Mahomedan boys.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

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